

NEW FRONTIERS

August 2008

THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE NEWSLETTER FOR ALL A.A. MEMBERS OF WESTERN NEW YORK AND THE NIAGARA FRONTIER
We request that this newsletter be kept within the Fellowship to insure anonymity.

Central Committee Inventory

Editor's note: *What is presented here are condensed from the notes taken during the meeting, along with the taped recording of the event. Copies of this recording are available from Central Office, at cost. The price was not determined at press time.*

Each "bullet" is a comment from a member attending the meeting. All comments, some in summary form, have been included here. If there are 9 bullets for a question, this means there were 9 responses for that question.

Questions are presented here in the order in which they were addressed; the order was changed slightly, and some questions combined during the meeting, which all participants approved of.

There will be some phrases you will read which may make no sense, because of summarizing and editing comments. Listen to the recordings for all the details if you are interested.

**** For printing purposes the names and home groups will not be listed in the minutes however they are on the recording, which is available by contacting Central Office. They will be available for purchase at cost; the price has not been determined as of press time. ****

May 31, 2008 begin at 9:00am. Achieves attended

Open meeting- serenity prayer

Jack- introduction of self and the committee

Shawn- Moderator

Readings- 12steps and 12 traditions, 12 concepts

Moderator states outline: To Work with minimum friction and maximum purpose. With strong points of view we are passionate so please be considerate of others. Give name and home group. Please make point first and

then elaborate. This is not a voting process; it is merely informative.

What is the basic purpose of the central committee?

- A clearinghouse for all groups on the Niagara frontier. One meeting place, hold literature, provides schedules and things to allow the message to get out to other people.
- First for-runner of God through our conscious. How to include God.
- From the A.A. Guidelines (yellow print): service group established to carry out function exist to aid groups and carry message. This is your central office.
- First need to speak with group, direct attention, explain this concept to new people.
- Concepts book: why you need a conference permanent haven.
- Have a central committee manifesto saying what it is and what it is about because a lot of people don't know.
- It is the reason I am here today. Traveled all areas for meetings, got a broad sense. Went to meeting and heard reading of our purpose: Clearing house to speak freely on positive and negative. Everyone has the right to say something and its available here in buffalo. How did you get to A.A.? A phone call? That is one of the functions of the purpose of central committee. Have the message available so our kids, relatives, etc. have somewhere to come.

What more can this committee do to better fulfill its basic purpose?

- Communication! Get information out about what we do, where we are, etc.

- Stay involved as a central committee representative. If you take the position in your home group be prepared to fill it. Need qualified people in the position. Ask steering committee to get groups to have a representative.
- Through good sponsorship pay attention to what we are doing right. Start positive not negative. Acknowledge people then say this is how we can add to it.
- It comes down to individuals. Sponsor people into service. It is more palatable than announcing at meetings. Be conscious of how we are carrying the message.
- Alcoholics that answer the phone- it was an answering service. Have more A.A. members on the phone rather than someone who does not know for the PM service hours.
- Make literature more available about guidelines to people who want to know.
- Location: it was misunderstood that it was in a bad neighborhood. Have steering committee representative out and say here I am and I am available to you so new comers know where to go. We have lots of positive committees for the things we do. Go to meetings, talk it up.
- Takes a great amount of courage to be in service. People can be intimidated by not knowing things. Need informed group conscious. Get out to different communities, it would enhance communication. No more attitude like -- your not here at central office so too bad.
- I am responsible! Inner group reps. Willing to go to different meetings to explain what central office is about by taking literature. Over 300 groups and they are split up into districts.
- Power of positive thought. People say it's political- its not. The groups run it. See how alcoholics get along.
- Steering committee should get out to say this is who I am and this is what we do. Announce that we would like to see you come down and join central committee and see what it is all about.
- Program of attraction, not promotion. In district 5 there are 42 groups with a lot during the day. I work during the day, how is this possible. It's not always accessible. The sign in sheet for central office has only one group sign in as a representative out of the 42 groups. Speakers who give leads- how many talk about service? Communicate what service has done for me! Helps me to grow and how I don't know everything and its okay. Exposure through leads= attraction. Need to show and tell our experience through being in service.
- Communication with groups is putting a lot of weight on the steering committee. Mailing lists for each

home group- does the person get them? Do they actually read them or say the information is in the back? Do the groups read them? Does the group get their monthly mailing? It's important you know what's going on and have information.

- Tend to blame others- get co-chairs to take half the load. Delegate! District, service representatives give phone # if you can't make it call me, etc. If you have an opinion come and complain.
- A group nominates a person for the job and leave them hanging. Show them the purpose of the job and how it serves your home group. Have intergroup reps.
- Money and spirituality mix: concept 11- it's a function of a committee. Financial chair- if you have a chair have a committee to get more people involved. Share an all inclusive experience. Stride for substantial unity. We don't have to make immediate decisions; we can come back to it next month.
- The 12 steps are guidelines. Not like we do it perfectly, just stride. Don't bust down what central committee is doing, just gain more exposure.
- Groups feel that someone should get around, and then people will be willing to contribute if they are informed what they give to.
- People have negative views that no one cares and no one will show, etc. People with decades of experience could have damaging effects on new comers to say "nay" and negative things.
- Having what I say and do match. Spiritual principles. We talk about it but might not do it. Body language- a wink, an elbow being corrupt during meetings. Need to be fully focused on the individual and what is being said.
- Unanimous voting on a higher level of service, regarding substantial unanimity: how does our central committee require a percentage of yeah vs. nah or do our bylaws suggest something different. For example if 9 of 10 say yes then someone wants a minority opinion- What is our % at central office. Do we practice minority opinion? What is the process discuss, vote, then minority?

Are we truly representing our groups or our own point of view?

- Sometimes there are clicks, seems to be right of decision. Why does everything have to be done right away instead of being tabled? It is suppose to be going back to the groups and vote. Central committee representative is a representative of his/her group.

Do we discuss problems as they relate to the traditions of A.A. or are we more concerned with our own ego and point of view?

- 1935 A.A. was founded, 1947 guidelines were set which are our 12 traditions. We have to take direction to inform people what they are about. Take new comers and talk about those things.
- Central committee used to do opening focused on one of the traditions. Reconsider this. All operating procedures were all etched out 40 years ago. We look to fix what isn't broken rather than enhance.
- If we set intentions before actions we tend to go toward intentions. Return to do tradition. When we give opinion can we set it with the guidelines?
- Discuss issues rather than bludgeon people with them. People break traditions all the time. That fact is less than the reaction people have to it (which is worse). People change gears, topics, etc. just to set someone straight instead of taking the person aside after the meeting to explain.
- Items on the agenda that groups voted on: example-incorporation. What stops it from being filled? Maybe remove them. What purpose is it to have items we don't resolve?
- Being a watchdog is neither easy nor popular to keep an eye on the traditions. Recognize commitment to them.
- At group wall of literature that does not represent A.A.: fight at meeting, what does the new comer think? How do you tactfully approach things? Need steering representative.
- Every committee is a sub-committee of central committee. We forgot this. Turn things over to the body. It delays the effects but everything will work out how it is suppose to. Take care of A.A. as a whole; we are all a part of central committee.

Are we following up on problems presented to the committee by groups or individuals?

- Reports of groups having serious tradition violations will be removed from the schedule.
- Some people can't accept decisions because they don't think they are heard. Therefore repeat what they said in your own words then tell them why you don't agree.
- Are we responsive to the issues? Yes, we are very responsive but we don't always agree. We are effective at responding; God always wins.
- Following up with problems regarding dances, etc. We make ad hock groups to handle these things. Terry gets calls, Terry brings them up in the meetings and no one shows up. People grip but don't show.

Am I respectful and supportive of other committee member's point of view and concerns or do I let personalities cloud my judgment? Does

my behavior and attitude promote unity among the group or does it separate us?

- New comers see these personal agendas and get turned off
- Important to voice the minority opinion but still keep composure with out anger. Must express point of view, need to be heard.
- Regardless of behavior debates are guided towards appropriate decision.
- All comes back to: do I agree or disagree with the group conscious (must respect it)? It is the group, honor it.
- Be an example of what we want to continue. Be an example or a warning. We represent A.A. and new comers learn from us! This is what gets handed down. They will run it the same.
- People want to be involved but don't want to fight the fight anymore (it could look like a bar scene). Requirements of 2 years sobriety are set to be involved but you can go to the meetings anytime. Be responsible for your own behavior and action when your point of view is torn apart and be spiritual then.
- When people through pot shots to people it effects everyone. Care for the new comer.
- Principles before personalities. Not to tolerate other people but to not interject our own ego.
- Don't forget the new guy or when you were him/her. Take them and explain what to do around here.
- We got better- Why? Keep helping others and our life is better as a side product. I suffer my own serenity when ego is involved.
- How we do things and how they are done tend to lean people on personalities. Motions are done, vote, gone. Make decisions in less then 10 seconds. After a motion is not good- change this.
- Informed group conscious: the people that are there are informed. Groups are not informed if they are not there.
- Retreats and dances, etc.: In warranty 5 if someone does not like something, try something new, only we hope you don't designate your whole enterprise. Talk for the opinion of A.A. not your own.
- Committees- right of participation, concept #9- the right of decision. Participation is equal to the right of decision.
- Be here on the journey, learn, respect others opinions; does not mean you have to agree with. Are we separating ourselves form others? See the broad picture. It's about unity, love and service. We do this for the betterment of A.A.
- Singleness of purpose. Get group conscious by taking time with experienced people.
- Central committee reps get notes and facts and bring it back to the groups, that it.

- Service is a training ground. We learn how to get along and what common welfare is. It teaches us how to live in the real world, we find out how to do service and that we can get through things. Our lives depend on the constant thought of others. I am a trusted servant. That is good enough.
- It's about A.A. as a whole.

As trusted servants, are we handling donated contributions (money) to carry the A.A. message?

- Money is a spiritual tool of which we help others. Some groups withhold money due to resentment for central office, etc.
- Fear of economic change shall leave us. It is that there is not enough money or what else I don't have. Even when people took, we always had enough.
- Increase basket donations not just \$1. People get resentful when it is brought to light. Send a letter to the groups that don't spend etc.
- Finances at world office in NERAASA: price of books in NY is set. Our central office charges more to make up for the groups not contributing. By not giving and being a part of, prices will increase.
- Power of the purse. Groups that always gave still give but the amount went down. The spiritual benefits of donating.
- The message of A.A. is being carried! A phone is answered, we are there. There are expenses for these things.
- People are opposed to how we spend the money therefore they just don't give. Are funds distributed evenly throughout hospitals, jails etc?
- \$1 does not cut it anymore. Look at it individually and say what has A.A. done for me? Is my life worth more than a dollar?
- What it takes to keep a group running at a church. Use of literature, rent etc. Some groups have so little support they put in their own money. Our lives are at stake. Help the person that looks lost. We have a responsibility to help that person.
- Put money in basket. What the group does with that money is totally up to them. No one wants to join a group, everyone wants to start one. Don't tell people what to do, show them and teach them.
- Give, especially to the groups you are a part of. It's a way of thinking. Can we get/have money to drink but not support. Priorities! Example: people walk in with a Tim Horton's coffee but can't afford to put in the basket.
- Excuses: if going to 5 meetings a week, that's \$5. It says put the \$5 in your own groups donation not everyone. At NERAASA (North East Regional Alcoholics Anonymous Service Assembly) it said Western

NY was the lowest donating area. If every group gave \$2 a week to central office we would have no problem. Education! Teach people how we use it.

- Yes, if we are contributing to carry the message will people give more money? More money gave more arguments.
- Contributions are second to our spiritual condition. Money is not an issue when we give new comers a big book. People don't give because they don't know where it goes.
- Power of example. They will do it too. The groups are not giving of themselves because they haven't been shown.
- We are talking about running an office just like a business. We had to do a lot to cut costs. Sometimes there is no where else to cut. Every 5 years things need to be looked at.
- What has A.A. given to you? A Job? Then what is wrong with giving funds back? Live these principles in all life.
- At home group talk about the 7th tradition, why we give, where it goes, etc. Even at a beginners table and they take it elsewhere.
- Groups don't like how funds are designated. Example: conferences.
- Be cognizant, we show the new guy but require him to do all that. Just teach them and they will follow.
- Service costs money to be of service. Even Bill put out \$5 to take a train to see Dr. Bob. It is our duty and responsibility to offer the new comer the best A.A. possible.
- When are we using the contributions? Cut hours of central office. Open at 10am instead of 8am, etc.
- People just don't know. Conferences are not paid vacation. The conference actually teaches us how to save thousands a year at central office. It is to learn how to develop a better central office with all day and weekend affairs. It comes down to an informed body. Educate through financial information. It's a matter of trying to work with people and their hours.
- So many ways we discovered how to make money for our inner groups through these conferences. We succeed and do it the right way. We are the ones who care about service and give back to A.A.
- Send information on how to educate people in the new frontiers.
- In NYC there are financial committees. The budget is always set in NYC. We should have a committee also to function with like minds.
- We are the ones in service to save our own butts.
- The service entity will broaden your sobriety.
- Spiritual anonymity of the basket gives everyone the opportunity to serve. Being self supportive means we have a responsibility to serve in this way.

What are we doing to find out what the conscience of our groups are?

- Already talked about, move on.

Do our activities support the workings of other committees or the central office?

- Yes, achieves has a wonderful symbiotic relationship with central office. We are a general service committee for all western NY. We have a repository thanks to the buffalo inner group.
- For a while we came apart from connection, until addressing the liaison problem brought us closer to inner workings.

10. (question #7) Do we regularly attend the monthly meeting of central committee?

- Yes, yes, all yes.
- When we elect someone for the position...Do we encourage them to attend? Yes.

11. (question #10) Are we currently effective as a committee or can we become effective by better understanding our purpose?

- Most valuable spiritual tool is the spirit of rotation. The valuable principle is that it is no longer my committee, my job, my idea, etc. Or my meeting and I will run it exactly as I want. Example: meetings at ECMC- someone had to rotate out to teach me. Hold only one job at a time.
- We learn by jumping in
- You're only as effective as your committee members will let you be. We need to have these elected members of a home group first show up to central committee meetings or you won't be effective. Decisions come from group conscious.
- Have one job and show up to do it. Put your best foot forward and be accountable.
- Are we meeting the needs of those we serve? We are trusted servants.

Reading: from the concepts #9

Closing: prayer

ROLE MODELS HAVE CLAY FEET

A newspaper cartoon showed a road sign at the base of a mountain that said: "**Beware of falling role models!**" A big guy was hurtling downward to join other broken bodies at the bottom as onlookers gawked. Many a truth is said in jest. **DO NOT** put your faith and trust in any individual, young or old, including sponsors. That's my advice based upon experience. Individuals, including "Old-timers," may fail for various reasons. The A.A. Program, thoroughly and honestly followed, does not fail.

On Dec. 7, 1960, after five years of sobriety in A.A., I accepted a cocktail at a party and proceeded to get paralyzed drunk. Literally. I had to be carried out! I was on top of the world, everything was coming my way, and I was sponsoring several members who had placed me upon a pedestal and looked up to me. Next day, horribly hung over, I rationalized: It was only one night. My "pigeons" might be disillusioned and give up if I confessed a "slip." I would lose status and have to start over. Better to keep quiet.

Then I read the page for December 7 in "24 Hours a Day," that I had skipped the day before. Although it pointed directly toward me, I suggest that you look it up and take heed, as I did. I confessed at the next meeting and started over, "One Day at a Time." Thankfully, I have enjoyed 47 years of A.A. sobriety since then. Be good and be careful. Nobody "has it made," but you and I never have to drink again if we **work the program**.

GENE O. First Step Group, Niagara Falls, NY

Topics for Future Issues (subject to change - remember an alcoholic is the editor!!)

September: Principle: *The Myth of Perfection*
October: Principle: The Value of Apology; our 2008 Fall Convention
November: Principle: The Necessity of Meditation; Gratitude & Thanksgiving
December: Principles of the Lord's Prayer

Articles submitted do NOT have to be about these topics. We would like to report A.A. related events in the area, stories others should hear, a joke or ten, and the experiences of local A.A. members to help others achieve sobriety.

55th Annual Tri-State Assembly - August 29th through 31st, 2008

For 55 years there has been an annual A.A. Conference at the Chautauqua Institute on beautiful Chautauqua Lake. This is a popular vacation place, and we will have the grounds to ourselves!

Our conference is held on Labor Day weekend, just after the Institute closes for the season. We more or less have the place to ourselves. Many of the shops are still open. Scheduling the Assembly after the season is done to save you money. In the past, this facility has been a great place to stay and provides a marvelous setting for our meetings.

The food is delicious! On Saturday, August 30th both the pool and the workout facility are available to those who stay in Bellinger Hall. We do not have to pay a 'gate fee' for entering the grounds and/or parking. You may decide to make a day trip of it, and the only cost would be registration. There are also campgrounds in the immediate area that you can stay at if you wish.

Al-Anon will have programs during the weekend. There is also a bus tour of the scenic grounds set for Saturday.

If you have never been to the Chautauqua institute, there are many things to see and do, and you will not be disappointed. Walking the lovely streets and looking at the quaint Victorian cottages and gardens is an experience to be long remembered. Visiting the Village Square with its many shops is an opportunity to browse or to buy a book or two. Perhaps you would like to sit on a park bench or gaze into the water fountain while meditating.

If you would like to attend, please contact the Tri-State Assembly Chairman, Jerry J., at (585) 682-3215. The mailing address is PO Box 58, Waterport, NY 14571-0058.

IN MEMORIAM

Things We Can Not Change

Larry Q: Sobriety on the Canal; 18y

Henrietta W.: Cold Springs; 39y

Fran T.: Principals Before Personalities & We; 20y

To all our members who have lost family & loved ones our prayers are with you.

Share your Experience, Strength and Hope.

Please submit your announcements by the 12th for next months issue. Articles should be submitted by the 8th of the month for the next month's issue, space permitting.

Buffalo Central Office
681 SENECA STREET
(LOWER)

Buffalo, New York 14210

Or

E-Mail address: buffalooa@hotmail.com for announcements

AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

Alexander

Arnie A. 19y
Deanne Y. 20y

Amherst Snyder

Duane D. 2y
Mike S. 2y
Debbie S. 3y
Lauren L. 3y
Steve K. 4y
Russel G. 4y
Cindy M. 5y
Sharon S. 6y
Ernie C. 6y
Gary S. 7y
Pam K. 7y
Donna H. 7y
Tim K. 9y
Mickey G. 18y
John L. 26y
Tom C. 26y
Eliot L. 48y

Carry the Message

Kenny S. 17y

Coldsprings

Thornie H 15y
Dorothy M. 16y
Carmen S. 18y

Courage

Marge B. 19y
Patricia N. 38y

Freedom

Karen M. 6m
Sue V. 1y
Nick K. 1y
Connie D. 10y
Greg C. 13y
Pete W. 19y

Fresh Start

Tina C. 8y

Fireside

Connie M. 10y
Grgg C. 13y
Pete W. 19y

Golden Slipper

Denise C. 4y
Bruce R. 4y
Chris M. 7y
Joel A. 7y
Bob 21y
Mark D. 27y

Holland

Cheryl M. 5y
John O. 19y

Ironhorse

Mike L 6m
Mike Z 9m
Rich T. 15y
Frank M. 21y
Kate K. 26y

Kensington

Rita K. 15y
Ellie M. 30y

Kenmore

Tom C. 4y
Justin W. 4y
Bob J. 5y
Jeff W. 5y
Duke K. 6y
Jonathan N. 9y
Karen G. 13y
Lucky W. 32y
John S. 38y

Lakeshore

Kathie M. 1y

Living Sober

Keith S. 6y
Bob G. 10y
Will M. 16y

Lockport #1

Robin W. 6y
Mark M. 7y
Bill W. 29y
Sandy S. 31y

Lockport Ladies

Janis B. 10y

Lovejoy

Steve M. 3m
Julie I. 9m
Kevin D. 9m
Vinnie K. 9m
Dave B. 1y
Tim G. 1y
Tom W. 2y
Dave P. 12y
Rita K. 15y

North Buffalo

Lisa Jo S. 5y
Barbara S. 6y
Bob H. 10y
Lisa G. 14y
Lisa Y. 17y
Kathy T. 18y
Chuck B. 19y
Kevin C. 25y

Holiday Village

John R. 3y
Karen K. 3y
Sue A. 4y
Jen T. 4y
Kellie W. 5y
Ken F. 9y
Shirley Z. 17y

Orchard Park Step

John G. 16y

Remember When

Randy B. 13y

Rise & Shine

Crystal 6m
Valdina M. 6m
Justine H. 6m
James H. 6m
Anthony P. 9m
Tim L. 9m
Jason H. 9m
Bob L. 9m
Kim M. 9m
Kim M. 9m
James B. 1y
Colleen D. 5y
Thomas D. 6y
Kathy G. 9y
Michael A. 14y

Sobriety on the

Canal

Kim C. 4y
Colleen D. 5y
Barbara S. 22y
Patsy N. 38y

Sun. Morning Br.

De'Aun D. 2y
Gene K. 10y
Rita K. 15y

Surrender & Hope

Amy H 6m
Faith L 6m
Kelly C 6m
Tim T. 9y
Lucky W. 32y

Thruway

Robin D. 15y
Elizabeth B. 23y
Don M. 28y
Lee R. 28y
Dave B. 30y
Bernie S. 36y

Valley

Dan W. 2y

Victory

Bernie S. 36y



Group Anniversaries

Age Doesn't Matter:29y
A New Life:17y
As Bill Sees It:19y
Big Book-Lockport:28y
Commitment:5y
Community Center:36y
Derby:34y
Grand:38y
Hamburg Early Bird: 1y
Lockport Ladies:19y
Marilla:20y
Point of No Return: 2y
St. Barnabas:28y
Sunday Ascension:9y
3 Legacies:8y
We Care
Youngstown:24y

N. F. Policy:

*Anniversaries must be submitted by the **12th** of the month previous*



sunday

monday

tuesday

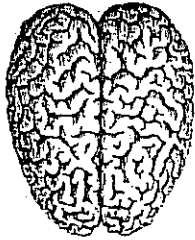
wednesday

thursday

friday

saturday

Central Office
681 SENECA STREET
LOWER
Buffalo, NY 14210
(716) 853-0368



THINK!

3 Central Committee Meeting, 7 pm, Corrections Committee Meeting, 6:00 PM, Buffalo Central Office, 681 Seneca St
 1954: Brinkley S. gets sober at Towns Hospital after his 50th detox.

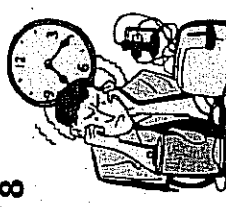
10 General Service Assembly, 1 PM., Hamburg Town Hall, 5999 South Park Ave., Hamburg.

17 24 hours a day is not the rest of our lives. Let's keep them manageable by putting them in the hands of our Higher Power, one day at a time.

31 **1966: Dr. Harry Tiebout dies. He was the first psychiatrist to support AA.

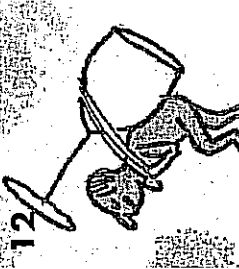
4 • If only...
 • Yes but...
 two excuses to get drunk again.

11 1938: First meeting of the Alcoholic Foundation.

18 

25 1943: Quincy (Mass.) Patriot reports donation of an AA Big Book to local library by South Shore AA group.

5 *1940: *Christian Herald* reviews The Big Book. "There is a book on alcohol you should read...The unnamed alcoholics write their own stories, and those stories are dynamic."

12 

19 1941: First AA meeting in Colorado is held in Denver.

26

6 "Belief meant reliance, not defiance."
 —The Twelve and Twelve

13 One drink is too many and a million ain't enough.

20 Public Information Committee meeting, Buffalo Central Office, 7 PM.
 How does AA work?
 H- Honesty
 O- Open mindedness
 W- Willingness

27 *1941: Cincinnati AA group has 60 members at its six month anniversary party.

7 1943: *Harrisburg* (Pa.) *Patriot* runs a story on the anniversary of the local AA group.

14 *1941: Bill W. writes Dr. Bob to report Works Publishing Co. has been incorporated.

21 1941: L.A. *Daily News* reports on an AA picnic held at Griffith Park Zoo. AAs saw some "real" elephants.

28 1954: *24 Hours a Day* is published by Richmond W.

8 1943: *Washington* (D.C.) *Times Herald* reports on AA clubhouse but withholds an address to protect members' anonymity.

15 1890: E.M. Jellinek, Ph.D., author of *The Disease Concept of Alcoholism* and a great AA friend, is born.

22 

29 "We are without defense against the first drink."
 — The Big Book

9 7th District Annual Picnic at LaSalle Park, Shelter. 9 AM, Speaker @ 1 PM, Lunch @ 2 PM
 1943: L.A. *Times* reports an AA picnic at Sycamore Grove on August 8 with 400 Southern California AAs attending.

16 57th Buffalo Fall Convention Meeting, 12 NOON Buffalo Central Office, 681 Seneca St
 1939: Dr. Bob and Sr. Ignatia admit the first of over 5,000 drunks they will treat at St. Thomas Hospital in Akron, Ohio, over the next 10 years.

23 Archives Committee Meeting, 9 am, Buffalo Central Office, 681 Seneca St
 *1949: Int'l. Doctors in AA is founded in Clayton, N.Y., with 10 doctors, including three Canadians.

30 *1934: Ebby T., Bill W.'s school buddy and sponsor, sobers up in the Oxford Group and visits Bill.

PLEASE READ AT YOUR MEETING...HELP KEEP EVERYONE INFORMED:-)

*BUFFALO CENTRAL OFFICE
ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS
(716) 853-0388
9:00 AM- 12:30PM, 2:00 PM- 4:30 PM
Schedule on line at: www.ny-aa.org &
www.Buffaloaany.org*

*681 SENECA STREET (Lower)
BUFFALO, NEW YORK 14210
Fax: 853-0389
www.buffaloaany.org
buffaloaa@hotmail.com*

AUGUST 2008

MEETING CHANGES:

- **Courage Group**, will have open speaker meeting on the last Saturday of every month. 10 AM, Maryvale Presbyterian Church, 425 Maryvale Dr., Cheektowaga.
- **Wehrle Group**; Wed. @ 10 AM, St. Steven- Bethlehem Church, corner of Wehrle near Union, Cheektowaga, **NEEDS SUPPORT** or may close at the end of 2008. Wheelchair elevator, air conditioning, wonderful room upstairs...a very nice meeting place.
- **Victory Group** still meets at the same time and place, but the church has changed names, its now, " Queen of Angels" Church.
- **Living in the Solution Group**, Amity Club, 340 Military Rd , Buffalo, has **Cancelled Monday & Tuesday's** at 7:30 PM. Will resume in September.
- **Earl Bird**, Wed. @ 10-AM, United Methodist Church, Corner of Ontario & Tonawanda Str's., Buffalo, **NEEDS SUPPORT.**
- **Ride Sober**, Sat. @ 9-AM, Victory Assembly of God Church, 688 Tonawanda St, N. Buffalo, **NEEDS SUPPORT.**

COMING EVENTS

- ~ July 29, **Steering Committee**, 6 PM, Central Office, 681 Seneca Street.
- ~ Aug 1-3, **2008 NYS Informational Workshop**, Daemon College, 4380 Main St., Amherst, NY 14226. Residence & meals available on-campus. Residential Package-\$165, Commuter Package- \$75, Saturday Package-\$50, Coffee Package- \$25. Forms at Central Office.
- ~ Aug 3, **Central Committee Meeting**, SUNDAY, 7 pm, Buffalo Central Office, 681 Seneca Street. (Hosted by Fresh Start)

- ~ Aug 3, **Corrections Committee Meeting**, SUNDAY, 6:00 PM, Buffalo Central Office, 681 Seneca Street (lower).
- ~ Aug 9, **7th District. Annual Picnic** at LaSalle Park, Shelter. Bring a dish to share if you wish. Come on out and help us celebrate. Starts 9 AM, Speaker @ 1 PM, Lunch @ 2 PM. For more information, or donations, contact; Odell, 541-8658 or Vernon, 308-8613.
- ~ Aug10, **General Service Assembly**, 1 PM., Hamburg Town Hall, 5999 South Park Ave., Hamburg.
- ~ Aug 20, **Public Information Committee meeting**, Wednesday, Buffalo Central Office, 7 PM.
- ~ Aug 16, **67th Buffalo Fall Convention Meeting**, Saturday, 12 NOON Buffalo Central Office, 681 Seneca Street All are welcome.
- ~ Aug 23, **Archives Committee Meeting**, SATURDAY, 9 am, Buffalo Central Office, 681 Seneca Street (lower).
- ~ Sept.11-14, **2008, National Archives Workshop**. History Lights the Way, Hosted by WNYGSA (area 50). Days Inn (Niagara Resorts) 443 Main Street, Niagara Falls. More info will be coming soon.
- ~Oct.3-5, **22nd Annual Women In AA Fall Spiritual Weekend**, St. Columbian Retreat House, Derby. Speakers, groups, advisors, bonfire, beautiful surroundings, food, fun & endless coffee. \$125; 3days,2nights + meals & coffee. More Info contact: Marilyn S.: 799-4094.
- ~ Oct 18, **A.A. of Jamestown 63rd Anniversary**, Saturday, Radisson Inn, 150 West 4th St., 4 Speakers, Panels, Banquet, Fellowship & Dance. Registration, \$10, Registration + Banquet, \$30. Banquet Registrations by Oct. 6th. For more info call; Cliff W. 720-5232, Bruce Y. 487-1343.
- ~ Oct. 31- Nov. 2, **67th. BUFFALO FALL CONVENTION**: Buffalo Marriott Hotel, 1340 Millersport Hwy. Amherst.

8th STEP: "Made a list of all persons we had harmed, and became willing to make amends to them all."

8th TRADITION: "Alcoholics Anonymous should remain forever non-professional, but our service centers may employ special workers."

8th CONCEPT; The trustees are the principal planners and administrators of overall policy and finance. They have custodial oversight of the separately incorporated and constantly active services, exercising this through their ability to elect all the directors of these entities.

PLEASE SUPPORT THE ENVELOPE SYSTEM

... Yours in the Fellowship of the Spirit...

Terry B.... Executive Secretary

Buffalo Central Committee Minutes
JULY 6, 2008

Jay H., North Buffalo Group and Committee Chair, opened the meeting at 7:00 pm with a moment of silence and the Serenity Prayer. Joe O., Living Sober Group, read the Preamble, Jennifer T., Amherst Snyder Group read the Purpose of the Central Committee. Lee M., from Ride Sober Group read the Twelve Traditions. A motion was made to accept June's minutes as written by John H., Sunday Morning Breakfast Group, seconded by Lee M., Ride Sober. Motion passed.

20 Groups were represented: **Dist. 1:** not represented; **Dist. 2:** Grand II Joy of Living, Living Sober, North Buffalo, Ride Sober, Three Legacies, Turning Point; **Dist. 3:** Abbott Men's Disc., Courage, Iron Horse, Sunday Morning Breakfast; **Dist. 4:** Orchard Park Step; **Dist. 5:** Big Book Lockport, Lockview, Redeemers; **Dist. 6:** Amsdell Lakeshore, Go To Any Lengths; **Dist. 7:** Lovejoy; **Dist. 8:** Amherst Snyder, Eyeopener, Wehrle.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

ENVELOPE SYSTEM: No report.

STEERING COMMITTEE: Written report by Jake, Three Legacies: Present were Exec. Sec, Chairman, Co-Chair, Treasurer; Districts represented were 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7. Exec. Sec. gave verbal report. Financial chair will give report at Central Committee meeting. District 3 reported that Tom resigned and his Co-rep, Shawn C., will be the District 3 rep for the remainder of his term. Exec. Sec. review was held.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Mark, Lakeshore Group and Financial Secretary gave report.

TREATMENT: No report.

CORRECTIONS: 1) Collins 1 & 2, second Tuesday are covered through October; no meeting in November and December because of the holidays; meeting time has changed to 7:00 – 8:00. 2) Buffalo Work Release needs coverage; meeting is held Wednesday; would like home groups to help cover this meeting; currently meeting is not available because we cannot meet our obligation; if interested call Dan Mc. 681-7081. 3) corrections pamphlet packets have purchased, see Dan should you want to take to your meetings. 4) Information from GSO regarding address for inmates to write when they obtain release date to request a contact person to take them to AA meeting: Correctional Facilities Committee, Bowling Green Station, P.O. box 1402, New York, New York 10274-1402. 5) back issues of Grapevine are greatly appreciated. If any correction committee member needs issues call Dan. 6) committee is trying to put together a list of people/home groups that are covering the following meetings: Collins 1 & 2; Gowanda. Attica, Wende, Buffalo Work Release, Erie County Correctional Facility and Albion. Please call Dan if you are facilitating one of these meetings.

SCREENERS: written report by Jeanmarie C., we are continuing to expand our list; people are still needed in the areas surrounding Buffalo with the exception of Hamburg. Please contact Central Office to be part of service and help the sick and suffering through 12 Step Calls.

CENTRAL OFFICE: AA INFO: 198; 12 STEP: 1; ALANON: 6; PIC: 0; VISITORS: 138; VOLUNTEERS: 19. From GSO: P-14: Letter to a Woman Alcoholic was discontinued. They are also discontinuing all tapes and videos. All will be cd's and dvd's. What I currently have in the office will be the last of them. The web site is coming along terrifically. Everyone really should look at the progress Ken has made. The fall convention information is on there as well at the New Frontiers for this past year. Vacation dates left: Aug. 22 – 29 and Sept. 2. 4 dates unknown at this time.

Yours in the fellowship of the Spirit,
Terry B., Exec. Sec.

NEW FRONTIER: Chip R., Editor: August issue will contain: Central Committee Inventory Minutes, plug for the Tri State Assembly at Chautauqua Institute, submission about role models; future articles: Having Fun part II, plug for Archives workshop (Sept) and Fall Convention (Oct/Nov); the Myth of Perfection, discussion tables v. sponsors; checking in with the medical profession; topics at beginners table – lame or same old-same old v. Big Book – who is running our program?

PIC: No report.

PAST CONVENTION: No report.

CURRENT CONVENTION: John C., Chairman: The convention work is almost finished. The program is set and ready to be finalized before going to print. All committees are ahead of schedule. The website is up and running with all information. The seating chart should be updated on a regular basis. In an effort to cut cost and paper waste we also have registration forms for those registering more than one person at the same table. Now all we need is the registrations to pour in.

AD-HOC COMMITTEES:

INCORPORATION: Terry B. stated that information on Incorporation will be given next month – August.

WEBSITE: No report.

CENTRAL COMMITTEE INVENTORY: Jack P., Lockport #1, Chairman: On June 22nd our committee had our final meeting regarding the group inventory held on May 31st. The committee would like to thank all groups and individuals that were involved in this process. We, as a committee, have grown through the experience and thank you for the opportunity to serve. I am now presenting the central committee a copy of questions used at the inventory, a written report of the responses to the questions, a set of 3 CD's of the audio portion and a financial report of the day. The committee suggests that this information is submitted to the new frontiers and added to the website. We also encourage future inventories of the central committee. CD's of the day will be available through the central office. We believe that this completes our charged duties for this ad hoc committee. Thank you again for the opportunity to serve.

GSA LIAISON: John C., reported that Daemien College is having a GSA workshop. NYS convention will be held this year in Tarrytown New York. The 2009 State convention will be held on Grand Island.

CPC: No report.

ARCHIVES: Tom B. Archivist: The National Archives Workshop is going well; we are hoping for local support. Contributions have been null the past month; we will have the Travel kit at the Main and High Day of Sharing July 12, 2008 and Sunday Morning Breakfast Group event on July 20, 2008. We also will represent our area at the NYS Convention in Tarrytown, NY July 25 – 27, 2008. We continue to meet at the Central Office at 9:00 a.m. the 4th Saturday of every month. Everyone is welcome.

RECAP: Corrections: Tom B., Archivist stated he has Grapevines that can be taken to corrections facilities.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: Steering Committee District 8 Charmaine D. resigned which leaves a vacancy for District 8 rep. Steering Committee made a recommendation of a 4% raise for the Executive Secretary – 3% cost of living and 1% gas expenses. John H., tabled the motion until August. Ann L. Lower River Group, sobriety date will have 10 years as of November 2008 from District 5 nominated for Co-chair for 2009 convention. No objections.

Motion to adjourn by Lee M., Ride Sober Group, seconded by Tom O., Turning Point Group. Meeting adjourned at 7:55 pm with The Lord's Prayer.

Minutes respectfully submitted by: Recording Secretary, John H., Sunday Morning Breakfast.

GROUP CONTRIBUTIONS

District	GROUP	CENTRAL		CORRECTIONS		TREATMENT	
		JUNE	YEAR	JUNE	YEAR	JUNE	YEAR
	11:45		50.00		0.00		0.00
	12 Step		0.00		0.00		0.00
	12 Steps/12 Traditions		200.00		0.00		0.00
	4th Step Stumblers		0.00		0.00		0.00
	6th Step		0.00		0.00		0.00
	A Day At A Time		0.00		0.00		0.00
	Abolition Men's		105.00		105.00		105.00
	Acceptance/Welcoming		100.00		0.00		0.00
	Achievement		0.00		0.00		0.00
	Action		100.00		0.00		0.00
	Age Doesn't Matter		0.00		0.00		0.00
	Albion		0.00		0.00		0.00
	Alexander		100.00		0.00		0.00
	Amherst/ Snyder		178.55		928.20		0.00
	Amsted Lakeshore		40.00		100.00		0.00
	Any Age		30.00		10.00		10.00
	Any Length		30.00		150.00		10.00
	Arcade		0.00		10.00		50.00
	As Bill Sees It		200.00		12.17		0.00
	Attica Big Book		5.00		0.00		0.00
	Attitude Adjustment		50.00		50.00		25.00
	Attraction		100.00		0.00		0.00
	Backdoor		0.00		0.00		0.00
	Back To Basics		0.00		0.00		0.00
	Back To Basics Office		18.00		0.00		0.00
	Beginning In Sobriety II		0.00		0.00		0.00
	Beginning's Women		100.00		25.00		25.00
	Big Book Lockport		175.00		0.00		0.00
	BB Spiritual Awakening		0.00		0.00		0.00
	Big Book Study		0.00		0.00		0.00
	Blasdel		0.00		0.00		0.00
	Blasdel Monday Night		80.00		0.00		0.00
	Bodhisattva		0.00		0.00		0.00
	Boulevard Helping Hand		0.00		0.00		0.00
	Boulevard Women		0.00		0.00		0.00
	Brass		50.00		0.00		0.00
	B.S.C.		20.00		10.00		10.00
	By The Book		0.00		0.00		0.00
	Carry The Message		108.80		10.00		10.00
	Casling		100.00		100.00		0.00
	Cathedral Park		0.00		0.00		0.00
	Cayuga Wake-Up Call		340.00		585.00		0.00
	Caz Manor		25.00		184.50		0.00
	Chapter IX		120.00		120.00		120.00
	Cheektowaga		180.00		400.00		0.00
	Chevy #1		0.00		0.00		0.00
	Clarence Men's		0.00		0.00		0.00
	Clarence Men's II		0.00		0.00		0.00
	Cold Spring		0.00		0.00		0.00
	Common Bond		0.00		0.00		0.00
	Commitment		0.00		0.00		0.00
	Constant Vigilance (Varysburg)		5.00		0.00		0.00
	Complainers		0.00		0.00		0.00
	Courage		42.50		0.00		0.00
	Daily Reflections		0.00		0.00		0.00
	Daily Reprieve		0.00		0.00		0.00
	Derby		75.00		0.00		0.00
	Desire		80.00		185.00		0.00
	Desperate		0.00		0.00		0.00
	Downtown Men's		50.00		0.00		0.00
	Dunkirk Monday Night		0.00		0.00		0.00
	Early Bird		0.00		0.00		0.00
	Early Bird Step		35.00		0.00		0.00
	Early Rising Obliging		0.00		0.00		0.00
	East Amherst		0.05		0.00		0.00
	East Aurora		150.00		0.00		0.00
	Easy Does It		159.00		109.00		10.00
	Ellicottville		0.00		0.00		0.00
	Emergency		0.00		0.00		0.00
	Everybody's		0.00		0.00		0.00
	Express		0.00		0.00		0.00
	Eyeopener		403.81		0.00		0.00
	Eyeopener South		50.00		378.00		0.00
	F.U.N.		0.00		0.00		0.00
	Faith		0.00		0.00		0.00
	Father Baker		0.00		0.00		0.00
	Feelings		50.00		0.00		0.00
	Firaside		85.00		711.40		0.00
	First Things First		288.55		0.00		0.00
	Forestville Sunday Serenity		50.00		0.00		0.00
	Fredonia Discussion		0.00		0.00		0.00
	Freedom		125.00		225.00		0.00
	Fresh Start		60.00		60.00		0.00
	Friendly		50.00		0.00		0.00

GROUP CONTRIBUTIONS

District	GROUP	CENTRAL		CORRECTIONS		TREATMENT	
		JUNE	YEAR	JUNE	YEAR	JUNE	YEAR
	Frontier(New)		100.00		0.00		0.00
	GAHA: DAGOH #1		0.00		0.00		0.00
	Gardenville		4.00		4.00		0.00
	Georgetown		0.00		0.00		0.00
	Getting Better		0.00		0.00		0.00
	Getting With It		80.30		0.00		0.00
	Giving		60.00		0.00		0.00
	Go to Any Length		638.00		65.00		65.00
	Golden Slipper		0.00		0.00		0.00
	Grand		50.00		0.00		0.00
	Grand II Joy of Living		50.00		0.00		0.00
	Grateful		0.00		0.00		0.00
	H.O.W.		0.00		0.00		0.00
	Hamburg		150.00		0.00		0.00
	Hamburg Early Bird		0.00		0.00		0.00
	Hand		0.00		0.00		0.00
	Handcappers		0.00		0.00		0.00
	Happy Hour II		0.00		0.00		0.00
	Harmony		200.00		0.00		0.00
	Helping Hand		25.00		100.00		0.00
	High Noon		0.00		0.00		0.00
	High View		150.00		0.00		0.00
	Higher Power		0.00		0.00		0.00
	Hillbilly		0.00		0.00		0.00
	Holiday Village		200.00		1200.00		50.00
	Holland		0.00		0.00		0.00
	Honest Solutions		0.00		0.00		0.00
	Honesty		60.00		0.00		0.00
	How It Works/Men's		100.00		475.00		0.00
	Inspiration		0.00		0.00		0.00
	Intoxicated on Life		0.00		0.00		0.00
	Ironhorse		130.27		625.27		13.03
	IT		0.00		0.00		0.00
	Johnson Creek Big Book		60.00		0.00		0.00
	Jaume		0.00		0.00		0.00
	Just Do It		0.00		0.00		0.00
	Just For Today/ Albion		30.00		0.00		0.00
	Just For Today/Cheek		200.00		0.00		0.00
	Keep It Simple Sister		50.00		50.00		0.00
	Keep On Coming		0.00		0.00		0.00
	Kenmore		0.00		0.00		0.00
	Kensington		25.00		0.00		0.00
	Ladies Nile Sober		0.00		0.00		0.00
	Lake Shore		365.00		50.00		50.00
	Lakeview		75.00		0.00		0.00
	Last Days Fellowship		2.00		0.00		0.00
	Lawyers		0.00		0.00		0.00
	LewPort		10.00		0.00		0.00
	Liberty Women		50.00		70.00		0.00
	Life Today		22.00		0.00		0.00
	Lighten UP		320.00		0.00		0.00
	Living Clean		0.00		0.00		0.00
	Living in the Solution		0.00		0.00		0.00
	Living Sober		90.00		0.00		0.00
	Lock City		60.00		0.00		0.00
	Lockport #1		250.00		25.00		25.00
	Lockport Discussion		0.00		0.00		0.00
	Lockport Ladies		75.00		0.00		0.00
	Lockport Tuesday		140.00		20.00		20.00
	Lockview		420.00		70.00		70.00
	Look To This Day		0.00		0.00		0.00
	Love		0.00		0.00		0.00
	Lovejoy		100.00		25.00		25.00
	Lower River		0.00		0.00		0.00
	Lunch Bunch Albion		0.00		0.00		0.00
	Main and High		10.00		25.00		0.00
	Main Street		150.00		0.00		0.00
	Maple Men's		25.00		0.00		0.00
	Marilla		75.05		0.00		0.00
	Matt Talbot		50.00		50.00		0.00
	McKinley Winners		0.00		0.00		0.00
	Medina Big Book		0.00		0.00		0.00
	Medina New Life		30.00		60.00		0.00
	Mercy		0.00		0.00		0.00
	Mid-day		45.00		105.00		0.00
	Midnight Discussion		230.00		0.00		0.00
	Miracle Happen		0.00		0.00		0.00
	Monday Big Book		82.00		0.00		0.00
	Morning After		100.00		0.00		0.00
	New Awakening		0.00		0.00		0.00
	New Freedom (Niagara Falls)		25.00		50.00		0.00
	New Beginnings/St. Vincent		25.00		25.00		0.00
	New Life		100.00		0.00		0.00
	New Outlook		0.00		0.00		0.00
	New Westside		50.00		0.00		0.00
	Niagara Frontier Men's Disc.		125.00		0.00		0.00
	North Buffalo		200.00		600.00		50.00
	North Java Monday		0.00		0.00		0.00
	North Java Sunday		0.00		0.00		0.00

A. A. on the Niagara Frontier

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